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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

SHIGEMI WAKABAYASHI

: EXAMINER: SHOSHO, C.

SERIAL NO: 10/743,076

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FILED: DECEMBER 23, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1714

FOR: WATER-BASED INK

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RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of December 7, 2006, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. A request for continued examination is being filed herewith.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1-3 and 5-17 remain active in this application.

The claimed invention is directed to a water-based ink comprising an aqueous dispersion of polymer particles of a water-insoluble polymer having an alkyl group of at least 20-30 carbon atoms on its side chain and an acid value of 30-120 mgKOH/g and a hydrophobic dye.

Water-based inks have become popular for use in inkjet recording. The use of permeability controlling agents such as water-soluble organic solvents can lead to degradation of the aqueous dispersion as well as extraction of a dye from a dye-containing